Rice University
Civil and Environmental Engineering

CEVE 480 Senior Design
Spring 2020 Syllabus

Course Information

CEVE 480 is a continuation of CEVE 481 Senior Design. The intent of this course is to provide real world project experience. You will have real practitioners in class to discuss with you various perspectives. You will also hear from practicing engineers related to your role in the project.

The 4 projects developed as concepts in the Fall Semester will be further developed into a final report and presentation to a jury. It is important that each one of you participate and play a significant role in your team's report and presentations. There will be 4 teams to address the projects. The intent is to share the efforts so that each team provides a significant part of the work resulting in a more complete project. There will be workshops on each project where the whole class is to participate in developing the projects.

This semester in CEVE 480, you will be asked to make two presentations. The first presentation will be an interim design report in which you will present your project in a schematic format, discuss your research on the project and present what still needs to be coordinated and designed, where you are on budget and schedule for the project, and any required additional services and special considerations needed to complete the project. The other project teams will be allowed and encouraged to question your team regarding its presentation to obtain information they need and to question what was presented. The last presentation will be on the final design of your project. A written report will be required to document the body of work for your project. There is an assignment to enter a project poster in the 2020 Engineering Design Showcase and Poster Session in April. These presentations along with class participation, your written project report and your project poster will determine your grade in CEVE 480.

There is a proposed off-campus class meeting at Walter P. Moore and Associates, Inc. corporate headquarters to meet with their engineers for input on design and to answer questions you might have on your role in the project. You are strongly encouraged to visit your project site to observe the site conditions.

Your grades will be based on your class participation, the effectiveness of your team, the quality of your work, the creativeness of your solutions and the quality of the presentations. Class participation is the most important of all. You are expected to participate in class discussions, ask questions about the other teams' projects and presentations, and spend quality team time during that portion of the class.

You are encouraged to find out as much as you can on your own before asking questions. Much of learning is in the pursuit of an answer. We both have another full time job, so have patience if we can't get back to you quickly. You may email or phone us, but please be respectful of our time during the day. Feedback on the presentations and discussions is encouraged.

Grading

The following are the basis of grading:

- Teamwork 5%
- Class Participation 5%
- Assignments 15%
- Poster 15%
- Project Progress Presentation 20%
- Final Design Presentation 20%
- Report 20%

In addition, there will be up to 3 extra credit points for those who actively contribute to class discussions on a regular basis, ask quality questions of presenters, and for extra effort on preparing assignments.

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Instructors

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